

Claim Objections

Claim 16 is objected to because of the following informalities: line 2, "to the" is misspelled. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 14, 17, 19, 20, 56, 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bolliger et al U.S. Patent 6,287,211.

Bolliger disclosed a seat comprising a support (6) and means (30) for immobilizing the user on the support leaving the passenger's shoulders free and immobilizing him through an abdominal portion as shown in Fig. 3; the means (30) having at least one front support (30) and opposing means (5) designed to act on the user's back. Fig. 8 shows a roller coaster having a platform (1) moving on at least one track comprising at least one seat as described above. The roller coaster is typically having a circular and having a plurality of seats arranged on at least one peripheral portion of the platform, and the seat is position in such a way that the passenger faces outwards from the platform.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolliger et al.

It is noted that Bolliger et al failed to teach the platform as being circular as claimed. However, there is no significance of the circular platform claimed. Accordingly, it would have been a matter of design choice to manufacture the platform (1) of Bolliger et al with a circular shape to accommodate any particular ride.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-6, 13, 15, 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21-50 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIEN T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-4428. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Kien. T. Nguyen/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3711

Ktn